

16. An acetabular component comprising:

an acetabular shell, said shell including at least one screw hole formed therein, said shell including a smooth inner sealing surface;

said acetabular shell also having at least one interlock circumferential groove and a plurality of peripheral notches formed therein;

a liner configured to seat within said acetabular shell, said liner including at least one circumferential peripheral annular seal, said at least one peripheral seal engaging said smooth inner sealing surface of said acetabular shell in a sealing engagement to restrict migration of debris toward said at least one screw hole;

said liner also including a separate raised locking ridge positioned to engage said interlock groove of said acetabular shell in a snap-lock arrangement; and

a plurality of generally rounded peripheral tabs on the peripheral edge of said liner, said tabs disposed to engage said plurality of notches on said acetabular shell so as to prevent rotational movement of said liner within said acetabular shell.

Please amend the following claims:

2. (Amended) The [prosthesis] acetabular component of Claim [1] 16 wherein said [prosthesis] acetabular component is load bearing, said liner being formed to substantially conform to and contact said shell under load bearing conditions, said at least one peripheral seal being positioned to maintain its sealing engagement between said liner and smooth inner sealing surface of said shell under load bearing conditions.

3. (Amended) The [prosthesis] acetabular component of Claim 2 wherein said at least one seal includes at least one ridge of resilient material so that load bearing contact